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(54) Improved Packaging Assembly

(57) A packaging assembly comprises a plastics flask having a main body 1 and an appendage or projection 6, a rupturable membrane 5 is disposed between the body 1 and the appendage 6 and a probe 8 on the appendage is depressible to rupture the membrane thereby allowing material contained in the body and appendage to mix. The invention finds particular application in the packaging of drinkable liquids. The liquid 10 is contained in the main body, an aerating pellet 9 in the appendage.

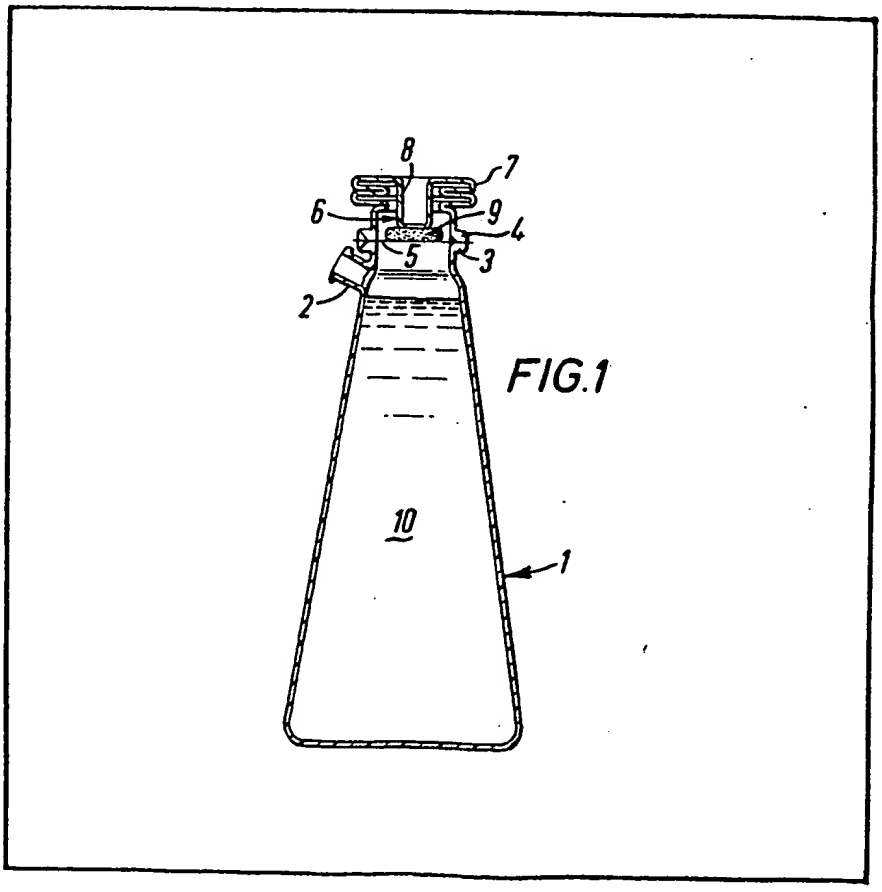

FIG.1

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SPECIFICATION

Improved Packaging Assembly

This invention relates to packaging and has for its objective the providing of an improved packaging assembly which enables two components to be stored separately from one another and to be mixed when required.

According to the present invention there is provided a packaging assembly for two components which are mutually reactive to achieve a desired effect, such assembly comprising a container, a barrier within the container defining first and second compartments thereby separating the components and a part on the container wall which is depressible to cause rupturing of the barrier thereby achieving mixing of the components.

According to a preferred feature of the invention the container is formed of plastics material. The main body of the container is the first compartment and a projection forms the second. The projection includes an inwardly extending spigot and the arrangement is such that depression of the projection forces the spigot or a component on the barrier through the barrier. To allow effective piston-like depression of the projection and spigot carried thereby the projection walls can be of bellows-like construction.

The invention finds particular application in the packaging of drinkable liquids. Thus the liquid could be in the first compartment and an aerating pellet in the second. However the invention can also find application in other two-component assemblies, such as for example resin/catalyst adhesive formulations.

The invention will now be described by way of example and with reference to the accompanying schematic section drawings wherein:—

Figures 1 and 2 are a first and second packaging assemblies.

Referring now to Figure 1 of the drawings, the packaging assembly illustrated therein comprises a blow moulded polyethylene flask having a main body 1 of generally conical shape having a circular cross section. A laterally and upwardly extending dispensing spout 2 is provided in the upper part of the side wall of the body 1, this spout being sealed by a foil piece. The upper part of the body 1 terminates with an annular rim or lip 3 and to this rim or lip 3 is fixed by heat welding a corresponding mating rim or lip 4 of a projection 6 constituting the second part of the assembly. Between lips 3 and 4 is trapped a pierceable membrane or septum 5, made for example of coated metal foil.

The appendage 6 is of bellows configuration having deeply corrugated peripheral indentations 7 and an axial involution 8 defining a rigid probe of cylindrical form.

A soft drink at 10 fills the first compartment defined by body 1 to just below the spout whilst a bicarbonate pellet 9 rests on the septum 5 in the second compartment within projection 6. The compartments are filled prior to joining lips 3 and 4.

To aerate the drink the spigot 8 is depressed by the user, this depression being accommodated by the bellows-like configuration of projection 6. The piston 8 forces the capsule 9 through the septum 5 so that the capsule mixes with the drink 10 and aeration takes place. On removal of the foil on spout 2 the drink can be dispensed.

In the modified construction shown in Figure 2 the appendage 6 is located in a countersunk recess 11 in the base of the body 1. All like parts are identified by similar reference numerals. A twist off member 12 at the other end of the capsule can be removed to provide drinking access through aperture 13.

The two containers set out above are preferably made from a biodegradable plastics material such as that for example set out in the Specifications of Patents Nos. 1,485,833 and 1,487,050 of Coloroll Limited.

Claims

1. A packaging assembly for two components which are mutually reactive to achieve a desired effect, such assembly comprising a container, a barrier within the container defining first and second compartments thereby separating the components and a part on the container wall which is depressible to cause rupturing of the barrier thereby achieving mixing of the components.

2. An assembly as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the container is formed of plastics material.

3. An assembly as claimed in either Claim 1 or Claim 2 wherein the main body of the container is the first compartment and a projection forms the second compartment.

4. An assembly as claimed in Claim 3 wherein the projection includes an inwardly extending spigot and the arrangement is such that depression of the projection forces the spigot or a component on the barrier through the barrier.

5. An assembly as claimed in Claim 4 wherein the projection walls are of bellows-like construction to allow effective piston-like depression of the projection and the spigot contained thereby.

6. An assembly substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to and as shown in Figure 1 of the accompanying drawings.

7. An assembly substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to and as shown in Figure 2 of the accompanying drawings.

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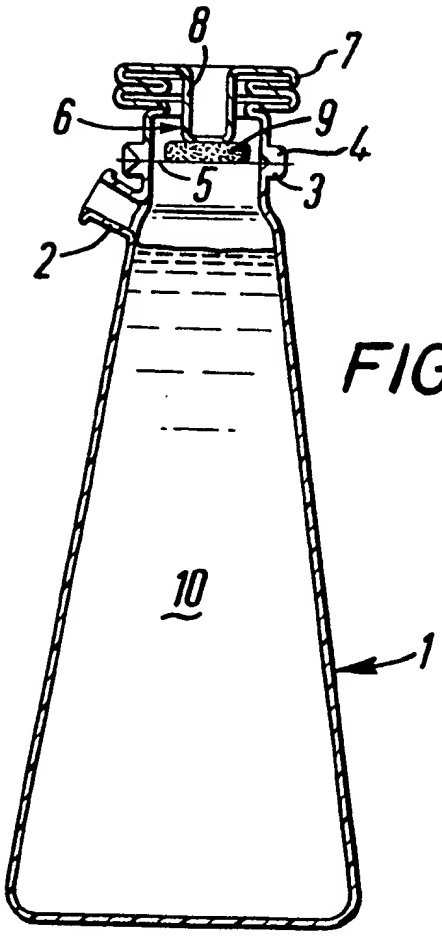

FIG.1

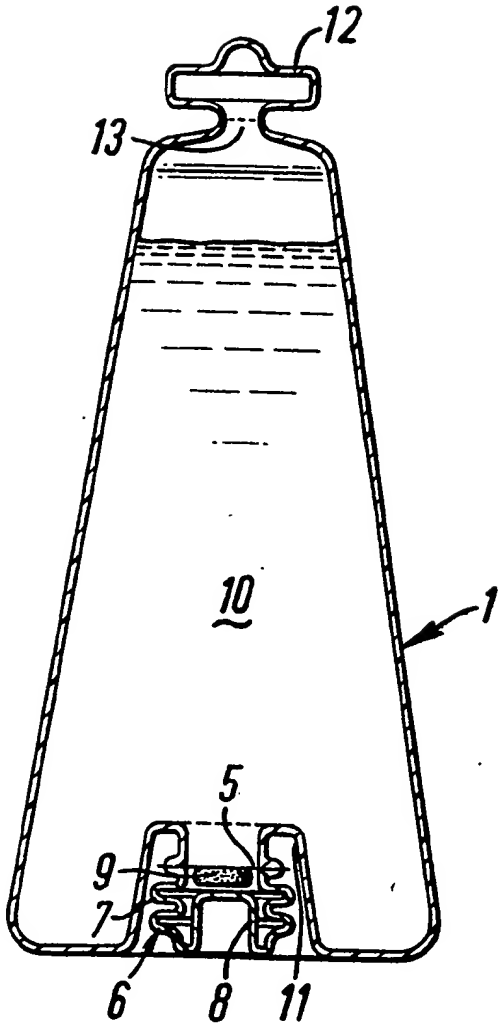

FIG.2